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# Inhomogeneous theory of dual Diophantine approximation on manifolds

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*Dedicated to Bob Vaughan*

## Abstract

The inhomogeneous Groshev type theory for dual Diophantine approximation on manifolds is developed. In particular, the notion of *nice* manifolds is introduced and the divergence part of the theory is established for all such manifolds. Our results naturally incorporate and generalize the homogeneous measure and dimension theorems for non-degenerate manifolds established to date. The generality of the inhomogeneous aspect considered within enables us to make a new contribution even to the classical theory in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Furthermore, the multivariable aspect considered within has natural applications beyond the standard inhomogeneous theory such as to Diophantine problems related to approximation by algebraic integers.

*Key words and phrases:* Metric Diophantine approximation, extremal manifolds, Groshev type theorem, ubiquitous systems

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Motivation and main results

Throughout  $\mathbb{R}^+ = (0, +\infty)$ ,  $|\cdot|$  denotes the supremum norm,  $\|\cdot\|$  is the distance to the nearest integer and  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} := a_1b_1 + \cdots + a_nb_n$  is the standard inner product of vectors  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  and  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Furthermore,  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  will denote a function such that

$$\Psi(a_1, \dots, a_n) \geq \Psi(b_1, \dots, b_n) \quad \text{if } |a_i| \leq |b_i| \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, n, \quad (1)$$

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and will be referred to as a *multivariable approximating function*. In the special case when  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|)$  for a monotonic function  $\psi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  we simply refer to  $\psi$  as an *approximating function*.

Given a multivariable approximating function  $\Psi$  and a function  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , define the set

$$\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi) := \left\{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \begin{array}{l} \|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{y} + \theta(\mathbf{y})\| < \Psi(\mathbf{a}) \\ \text{for infinitely many } \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\} \end{array} \right\}. \quad (2)$$

For obvious reasons points  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$  are referred to as  $(\Psi, \theta)$ -*approximable* and when  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|)$  we naturally write  $\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi)$  for  $\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$ . In the case the function  $\theta$  is constant, the set  $\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$  corresponds to the familiar inhomogeneous setting within the general theory of dual Diophantine approximation. In turn, with  $\theta \equiv 0$  the corresponding set reduces to the homogeneous setting and is denoted by  $\mathcal{W}_n(\Psi)$ . Note that within the homogeneous setting, points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are approximated by  $(n-1)$ -dimensional rational planes and Groshev's fundamental theorem [23, §2.3] in the theory of metric Diophantine approximation provides a beautiful and simple criterion for the 'size' of  $\mathcal{W}_n(\psi)$  expressed in terms of  $n$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure  $|\cdot|_n$ . Essentially, for any approximating function  $\psi$

$$|\mathcal{W}_n(\psi)|_n = \begin{cases} \text{ZERO} & \text{if } \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t^{n-1} \psi(t) < \infty, \\ \text{FULL} & \text{if } \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t^{n-1} \psi(t) = \infty. \end{cases}$$

Here 'full' simply means that the complement of the set under consideration is of measure zero. Many years later, and building upon the work of Jarník, this criterion was generalized to incorporate Hausdorff measures [33]. For background, precise statements and generalizations to the inhomogeneous and multivariable aspects the reader is referred to [9, 11, 14, 18] and references within.

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . In short, our primary goal is to develop a metric theory for the sets  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$  akin to Groshev's theorem. The fact that the points  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  of interest are restricted to  $\mathcal{M}$  and therefore are of dependent variables, introduces major difficulties in attempting to describe the measure theoretic structure of  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$  – even with  $\theta \equiv 0$  and  $\Psi = \psi$ . Trivially, if the dimension of the manifold is strictly less than  $n$  then  $|\mathcal{M}|_n = 0$ . Thus, in attempting to develop a Lebesgue theory for  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$  it is natural to use the induced Lebesgue measure  $|\cdot|_{\mathcal{M}}$  on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Trivially, the measure of the complement of  $\mathcal{M}$  with respect to  $|\cdot|_{\mathcal{M}}$  is zero and so by definition  $|\mathcal{M}|_{\mathcal{M}} := \text{FULL}$ .

In 1998, Kleinbock & Margulis [39] established the fundamental Baker-Sprindzuk conjecture concerning homogeneous Diophantine approximation on manifolds. As a consequence, for non-degenerate manifolds  $|\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n(\Psi_\epsilon)|_{\mathcal{M}} = 0$  where  $\Psi_\epsilon(\mathbf{a}) := |\mathbf{a}|^{-n-\epsilon}$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . Essentially, non-degenerate manifolds are smooth sub-manifolds of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which are sufficiently curved so as to deviate from any hyperplane. Formally, a manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  of dimension  $m$  embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be *non-degenerate* if it arises from a non-degenerate map  $\mathbf{f} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  where  $U$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mathcal{M} := \mathbf{f}(U)$ . The map  $\mathbf{f} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{u} \mapsto \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) = (f_1(\mathbf{u}), \dots, f_n(\mathbf{u}))$  is said to be  *$l$ -non-degenerate at  $\mathbf{u} \in U$*  if  $\mathbf{f}$  is  $l$  times continuously differentiable on some sufficiently small ball centred at  $\mathbf{u}$  and the

partial derivatives of  $\mathbf{f}$  at  $\mathbf{u}$  of orders up to  $l$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The map  $\mathbf{f}$  is *l-non-degenerate* if it is *l-non-degenerate* at almost every (in terms of  $m$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure) point in  $U$ ; in turn the manifold  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbf{f}(U)$  is also said to be *l-non-degenerate*. Finally, we say that  $\mathbf{f}$  is *non-degenerate* if it is *l-non-degenerate* for some  $l$ ; in turn the manifold  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbf{f}(U)$  is also said to be *non-degenerate*. Any real connected analytic manifold which is not contained in any hyperplane of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is non-degenerate.

Without a doubt, the proof of the Baker-Sprindzuk conjecture has acted as the catalyst for the subsequent development of the homogeneous theory of Diophantine approximation on manifolds. In particular, the significantly stronger Groshev type theorem for  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n(\psi)$  has been established – see [4, 24] for the zero measure criterion and [10] for the full measure criterion. Staying strictly within the homogeneous setting, for recent developments regarding the ‘deeper’ Hausdorff measure theory and the simultaneous approximation theory we referee the reader to [2, 6, 11, 12, 15, 19, 32, 45] and references within.

Until the recent proof of the inhomogeneous Baker-Sprindzuk conjecture [16, 17], the theory of inhomogeneous Diophantine approximation on manifolds had remained essentially non-existent and ad-hoc – see [22, 25, 46, 47]. As a consequence of the measure results in [17] we now know that for any non-degenerate manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\theta \equiv \text{constant}$ ,

$$|\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi_\epsilon)|_{\mathcal{M}} = 0 \quad \forall \quad \epsilon > 0. \quad (3)$$

Clearly, this statement is far from the desirable Groshev type theorem even for  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi)$ . As mentioned above, such a statement exists within the homogeneous setting. This paper constitutes part of an ongoing programme to develop a coherent inhomogeneous theory of Diophantine approximation on manifolds in line with the homogeneous theory. In the case of simultaneous approximation on planar curves, the programme has successfully been carried out in [13]. Here we deal with the dual approximation aspect of the programme.

Our first result provides a zero Lebesgue measure criterion for  $\mathcal{M} \cap \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)$ . It represents the complete inhomogeneous version of the main result of [24] and it implies (3) without imposing the condition that the ‘inhomogeneous’ function  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is constant. Throughout,  $\theta|_{\mathcal{M}}$  will denote the restriction of the inhomogeneous function  $\theta$  to  $\mathcal{M}$  and as usual,  $C^{(n)}$  will denote the set of  $n$ -times continuously differentiable functions.

**Theorem 1** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an  $l$ -non-degenerate manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) and  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $\theta|_{\mathcal{M}} \in C^{(l)}$ . Let  $\Psi$  be a multivariable approximating function. Then*

$$|\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi) \cap \mathcal{M}|_{\mathcal{M}} = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} \Psi(\mathbf{a}) < \infty. \quad (4)$$

For the divergence counterpart, we are able to prove the more general statement in terms of  $s$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure  $\mathcal{H}^s$ . However, there is a downside in that we impose a ‘convexity’ condition on  $\Psi$  which we refer to as property **P**. For an  $n$ -tuple

$\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  of positive numbers satisfying  $v_1 + \dots + v_n = n$ , define the  $\mathbf{v}$ -quasinorm  $|\cdot|_{\mathbf{v}}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by setting

$$|\mathbf{y}|_{\mathbf{v}} := \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |y_i|^{1/v_i}.$$

A multivariable approximating function  $\Psi$  is said to satisfy property **P** if  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}})$  for some approximating function  $\psi$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  as above. Trivially, with  $\mathbf{v} = (1, \dots, 1)$  we have that  $|\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} = |\mathbf{a}|$  and we see that any approximating function  $\psi$  satisfies property **P**.

**Theorem 2** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a non-degenerate manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) of dimension  $m$  and let  $s > m - 1$ . Let  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $\theta|_{\mathcal{M}} \in C^{(2)}$  and  $\Psi$  be a multivariable approximating function satisfying property **P**. Then

$$\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{M}) \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} |\mathbf{a}| \left( \frac{\Psi(\mathbf{a})}{|\mathbf{a}|} \right)^{s+1-m} = \infty.$$

The above theorem will be derived from a general statement which significantly broadens the scope of potential applications and is of independent interest. Given a manifold  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , an  $n$ -tuple  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  of positive numbers satisfying  $v_1 + \dots + v_n = n$ ,  $\delta > 0$  and  $Q > 1$ , let

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}(Q, \delta) = \left\{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{M} : \exists \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\} \text{ such that } \|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{y}\| < \delta Q^{-n} \text{ and } |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq Q \right\}.$$

As a consequence of Dirichlet's theorem,  $\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}(Q, \delta) = \mathcal{M}$  if  $\delta \geq 1$ . We say that the manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at  $\mathbf{y}_0 \in \mathcal{M}$  if there is a neighborhood  $\Omega \subset \mathcal{M}$  of  $\mathbf{y}_0$  and constants  $0 < \delta, \omega < 1$  such that for any ball  $B \subset \Omega$  we have that

$$\limsup_{Q \rightarrow \infty} |\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}(Q, \delta) \cap B|_{\mathcal{M}} \leq \omega |B|_{\mathcal{M}}.$$

The manifold is said to be  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice if it is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at almost every point in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Furthermore, the manifold is said to be nice if it is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice for all choices of  $\mathbf{v}$ .

**Theorem 3** Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice  $C^{(2)}$  manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of dimension  $m$  and let  $s > m - 1$ . Let  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $\theta|_{\mathcal{M}} \in C^{(2)}$  and  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}})$  for some approximating function  $\psi$ . Then

$$\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{M}) \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} |\mathbf{a}| \left( \frac{\Psi(\mathbf{a})}{|\mathbf{a}|} \right)^{s+1-m} = \infty.$$

A consequence of Lemma 4 in §3.1 is that non-degenerate manifolds are nice. Thus

$$\text{Theorem 3} \implies \text{Theorem 2}.$$

## 1.2 Remarks and Corollaries

*Remark 1.* For  $s < m$ , the non-degeneracy of  $\mathcal{M}$  in Theorem 2 can be relaxed to the condition that there exists at least one non-degeneracy point on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Also, note that  $\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{M}) = \infty$  when  $s < m$ .

*Remark 2.* It follows from the definition of Hausdorff measure that  $\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) \leq \mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{M}) = 0$  for any  $s > m$  irrespective of  $\Psi$ . Thus the meat of Theorem 2 is when  $s \leq m$ .

*Remark 3.* To the best of our knowledge, Theorem 2 with  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\theta \not\equiv \text{constant}$  is new. In other words, the theorem makes a new contribution even to the classical theory of Diophantine approximation of independent variables.

*Remark 4.* We suspect that Property P imposed in the statement of Theorem 2 can be safely removed. This constitutes a challenging problem even in the homogeneous case.

*Remark 5.* Consider the problem of Diophantine approximation on the Veronese curves  $\mathcal{M} := \{(x, x^2, \dots, x^n) : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , where  $n \geq 2$ . Take  $\theta(x, \dots, x^n) = x^{n+1}$ . Then the inequality in (2) becomes

$$|x^{n+1} + a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0| < \Psi(\mathbf{a}).$$

Clearly the function  $\theta$  as defined above is  $C^{(\infty)}$ . In the case when  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|)$  the corresponding divergence results have been proved by Bugeaud [30] and the corresponding convergence results by Bernik & Shamukova [26, 44]. Theorems 1 and 2 naturally extend their results to the case of multivariable approximating functions  $\Psi$ .

We now discuss various corollaries of our main theorems which are of independent interest. The following statement is a direct consequence of Theorem 2 and the fact that any approximating function  $\psi$  satisfies property **P**.

**Corollary 1** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a non-degenerate manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of dimension  $m$  and  $s > m - 1$ . Let  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $\theta|_{\mathcal{M}} \in C^{(2)}$  and  $\psi$  be an approximating function. Then*

$$\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{M}) \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t^n \left( \frac{\psi(t)}{t} \right)^{s+1-m} = \infty.$$

In the case of curves this corollary was first established in [1]. In the case  $s = m$ , the Hausdorff measure  $\mathcal{H}^s$  is comparable to the induced  $m$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure  $|\cdot|_{\mathcal{M}}$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  and Corollary 1 represents the complete inhomogeneous version of the main result of [10]. Furthermore, Theorem 1 together with Corollary 1 provides a simple criterion for the ‘size’ of  $\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}$  expressed in terms of the induced measure; i.e. the desired inhomogeneous Groshev type theorem for manifolds. More precisely and more generally, under the hypotheses of Theorem 1 we have that for any  $\Psi$  satisfying property **P**

$$|\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi) \cap \mathcal{M}|_{\mathcal{M}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} \Psi(\mathbf{a}) < \infty \\ |\mathcal{M}|_{\mathcal{M}} & \text{if } \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} \Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \infty. \end{cases}$$

In the case  $s < m$ , Corollary 1 naturally generalizes the homogeneous result of [11, Theorem 18]. It is worth stressing that even with  $\theta \equiv 0$ , Theorem 2 can be regarded as developing the homogenous theory of Diophantine approximation on manifolds by incorporating multivariable approximating functions.

Given an approximating function  $\psi$ , the *lower order*  $\tau_\psi$  of  $1/\psi$  is defined by

$$\tau_\psi := \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-\log \psi(t)}{\log t}$$

and indicates the growth of the function  $1/\psi$  ‘near’ infinity. With this definition at hand, it is relatively easy to verify that the divergent sum condition of Corollary 1 is satisfied whenever  $s < m - 1 + (n + 1)/(\tau_\psi + 1)$ . It follows from the definition of Hausdorff measure and dimension that  $\dim(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) \geq s$  if  $\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) > 0$  and  $\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{M}) > 0$  if  $s \leq \dim \mathcal{M}$ . Thus, Corollary 1 readily yields the following inhomogeneous version of the dimension result of [32].

**Corollary 2** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a non-degenerate manifold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of dimension  $m$  and  $\theta : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that  $\theta|_{\mathcal{M}} \in C^{(2)}$ . Let  $\psi$  be an approximating function such that  $n \leq \tau_\psi < \infty$ . Then*

$$\dim \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M} \geq m - 1 + \frac{n + 1}{\tau_\psi + 1}. \quad (5)$$

In the case that  $\theta \equiv \text{constant}$  and  $\psi(t) := t^{-\tau}$  with  $\tau > n$ , this dimension statement corresponds to the main result of [27]. However, Corollary 1 implies the stronger measure statement that  $\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}) = \infty$  at  $s = m - 1 + (n + 1)/(\tau + 1)$  which in all likelihood is the critical exponent. In a wider context, it would not be unreasonable to expect that the above lower bound for  $\dim \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\psi) \cap \mathcal{M}$  is in fact sharp. Even within the homogenous setting, establishing equality in (5) represents a key open problem. To date the homogeneous problem has been settled by Bernik [20] for Veronese curves and by R.C. Baker [3] for non-degenerate planar curves. For non-degenerate curves in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  the current results are limited to situation that  $\tau_\psi \leq n + \frac{1}{4n}$  – see [8]. Most recently, the inhomogeneous version of Baker’s result has been established in [1]. In other words, if  $\mathcal{M}$  is a non-degenerate planar curve then in (5) we have equality.

### 1.3 Possible developments

*Affine subspaces.* The homogeneous Groshev type theorems are established for lines passing through the origin in [7] and for hyperplanes in [37]. It is likely that the techniques developed in this paper can be used to extend these results to the inhomogeneous setting. Note that affine subspaces are degenerate everywhere and so Theorems 1 & 2 are not applicable. It is worth mentioning that the general case, in which the dimension of planes is arbitrary, is unresolved even in the homogeneous setting – see [38] for further details.

*Manifolds in affine subspaces.* By definition, any manifold contained in a proper affine subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is degenerate. Nevertheless the ‘extremal’ theory of homogeneous Diophantine approximation for such manifolds has been developed in [38]. A natural problem is to develop the analogous inhomogeneous theory and more generally obtain a Groshev type theory. For the same reason as above, Theorems 1 & 2 are not applicable in this setting.

*The  $p$ -adic setting.* The homogeneous Groshev type theorems have recently been established in [41, 42] for the ‘ $S$ -arithmetic’ setting. This builds upon the ‘extremality’ results of Kleinbock and Tomanov [40] and includes the more familiar  $p$ -adic case. In all likelihood the techniques developed in this paper can be used to extend the homogeneous  $S$ -arithmetic results to the inhomogeneous setting. For inhomogeneous  $p$ -adic results restricted to Veronese curves see [22, 29, 46].

*The non-monotonic setting.* By definition, any approximating function  $\psi$  is monotonic. Thus, monotonicity is implicitly assumed within the context of the classical Groshev theorem as stated in §1.1. Recently in [18], this classical result has been freed from all unnecessary monotonicity constraints. Naturally, it would be highly desirable to obtain analogous statements for Diophantine approximation on manifolds. This in full generality is a difficult problem. Even in the case  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|)$ , to remove the implicit monotonicity assumption from Theorems 1 & 2 is believed to be currently out of reach. For homogeneous convergent Groshev type results without monotonicity but restricted to non-degenerate curves in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  see [5, 28]. In the first instance it would be interesting to extend these homogeneous results for curves to the inhomogeneous setting.

## 1.4 Global assumptions and useful conventions

In the course of proving our results we will conveniently and without loss of generality assume that the manifold  $\mathcal{M}$  under consideration is immersed in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  via a smooth map  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  defined on a ball  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{M} = \{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in U\}$ . Furthermore, in view of the Implicit Function Theorem we can assume that

$$f_i(\mathbf{x}) = x_i \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

In other words,  $\mathbf{f}$  is a Monge parameterisation of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Note that this implies that  $\mathbf{f}$  is locally bi-Lipschitz.

Let  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)$  denote the projection of  $\mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi) \cap \mathcal{M}$  onto  $U$ ; that is

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta) := \{\mathbf{x} \in U : \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{W}_n^\theta(\Psi)\}.$$

Thus, a point  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)$  if and only if the point  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{M}$  is  $(\Psi, \theta_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{x}))$ -approximable with  $\theta_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{x}) := \theta(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}))$ . For convenience and clarity we will drop the subscript from  $\theta_{\mathbf{f}}$ . In the case when  $\Psi(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(|\mathbf{a}|)$  for some approximating function  $\psi$  we write  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\psi, \theta)$  for



$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)$ . A consequence of the fact that  $\mathbf{f}$  is locally bi-Lipschitz is that Theorems 1–3 can be equally stated in terms of  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)$ . Indeed the proof of the theorems will make use of this alternative formulation.

In the case of Theorem 1 the functions  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\theta$  are  $C^{(l)}$ . Thus we can assume without loss of generality that there is a constant  $C_0 > 0$  depending only on  $U$ ,  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\theta$  such that

$$\max_{0 \leq i \leq l} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in U} |\mathbf{f}^{(i)}(\mathbf{x})| \leq C_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{0 \leq i \leq l} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in U} |\theta^{(i)}(\mathbf{x})| \leq C_0. \quad (6)$$

In the case of Theorems 2 & 3 the functions  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\theta$  are  $C^{(2)}$  and therefore without loss of generality we can assume (6) with  $l = 2$ .

*Notation.* The Vinogradov symbols  $\ll$  and  $\gg$  will be used to indicate an inequality with an unspecified positive multiplicative constant. If  $a \ll b$  and  $a \gg b$  we write  $a \asymp b$ , and say that the quantities  $a$  and  $b$  are comparable. We denote by  $B = B(\mathbf{x}, r)$  the ball centred at  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  with radius  $r$ . For any real number  $\lambda > 0$ , we let  $\lambda B$  denote the ball  $B$  scaled by a factor  $\lambda$ ; i.e.  $\lambda B(\mathbf{x}, r) := B(\mathbf{x}, \lambda r)$ .

## 2 The convergence theory

The goal is to prove Theorem 1. Thus, throughout  $\Psi$  is a multivariable approximating function satisfying the convergent sum condition

$$\sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} \Psi(\mathbf{a}) < \infty. \quad (7)$$

In view of the discussion of §1.4 the goal is equivalent to establishing  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0$ . Note that the set  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)$  can be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta) = \limsup_{|\mathbf{a}| \rightarrow \infty} A_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) := \bigcap_{h=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{|\mathbf{a}| \geq h} A_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta), \quad (8)$$

where

$$A_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) := \{\mathbf{x} \in U : \|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})\| < \Psi(\mathbf{a})\}.$$

For each  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}$  it is convenient to decompose the set  $A_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta)$  into the following two subsets

$$A_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) := \{\mathbf{x} \in A(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) : |\nabla(\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{a} + \theta)(\mathbf{x})| \geq C_1 |\mathbf{a}|^{1/2}\} \quad (9)$$

and

$$A_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) := \{\mathbf{x} \in A(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) : |\nabla(\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{a} + \theta)(\mathbf{x})| < C_1 |\mathbf{a}|^{1/2}\}. \quad (10)$$

Here  $\nabla$  as usual denotes the gradient operator and

$$C_1 := \sqrt{(n+1)mC_0} \quad (11)$$

where  $C_0$  is as in (6). Obviously

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta) = \mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\Psi, \theta) \cup \mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi, \theta),$$

where

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^i(\Psi, \theta) = \limsup_{|\mathbf{a}| \rightarrow \infty} A_{\mathbf{f}}^i(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) := \bigcap_{h=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{|\mathbf{a}| \geq h} A_{\mathbf{f}}^i(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) \quad (i = 1, 2).$$

The desired statement that  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0$  will follow by establishing the separate cases:

$$\textbf{Case A} \quad |\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0$$

$$\textbf{Case B} \quad |\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0.$$

## 2.1 Establishing Case A

The aim is to show that  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0$ . This will follow as a consequence of Theorem 1.3 from [24] which is now explicitly stated using slightly different notation.

**Theorem 4 (Bernik, Kleinbock & Margulis)** *Let  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  be a ball of radius  $r > 0$  and let  $\mathbf{g} = (g_1, g_2, \dots, g_{n+1}) \in C^{(2)}(2B)$ . Fix  $\delta > 0$  and suppose that*

$$L := \max_{1 \leq i, j \leq m} \max_{\mathbf{x} \in 2B} \left| \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right| < \infty. \quad (12)$$

*Then for every  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$  such that*

$$|\mathbf{q}| \geq \frac{1}{4(n+1)Lr^2} \quad (13)$$

*the set of  $\mathbf{x} \in B$  satisfying the system of inequalities*

$$\begin{cases} \|\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{q}\| < \delta \\ |\nabla \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{q}| \geq ((n+1)mL|\mathbf{q}|)^{1/2} \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

*has measure at most  $K\delta|B|_m$ , where  $K$  is a constant depending only on  $m$ .*

With the above theorem at our disposal, consider any non-empty open ball  $B$  such that  $2B \subset U$ . Let  $\mathbf{g} = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{q} = (a_1, \dots, a_n, 1)$  where  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . Then, in view of (6), we have that (12) is automatically satisfied. Furthermore, (13) holds for all except finitely many  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}$ . In view of (6) and (11), the lower bound inequality of (14) is implied by the inequality associated with (9). Therefore,  $A_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) \cap B$  is contained in the set defined by (14) with  $\delta := \Psi(\mathbf{a})$ . It now follows via Theorem 4, that

$$|A_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\mathbf{a}, \Psi, \theta) \cap B|_m \ll \Psi(\mathbf{a})$$

where the implied constant is independent of  $\mathbf{a}$ . This together with (7) and the Borel-Cantelli lemma readily implies that  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\Psi, \theta) \cap B|_m = 0$ . Now simply observe that the open balls  $B$  such that  $2B \subset U$  cover the whole of  $U$ . The upshot is that  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^1(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0$  as required.

## 2.2 Preliminaries for establishing Case B

Establishing Case B relies upon the recent transference technique introduced in [17] and the properties of  $(C, \alpha)$ -good functions introduced by Kleinbock & Margulis in [39].

### 2.2.1 Good functions

The following formal definition can be found in [39].

**Definition 1** Let  $C$  and  $\alpha$  be positive numbers and  $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined on an open subset  $V$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Then  $f$  is called  $(C, \alpha)$ -good on  $V$  if for any open ball  $B \subset V$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$  one has that

$$\left| \left\{ x \in B : |f(x)| < \varepsilon \sup_{x \in B} |f(x)| \right\} \right|_m \leq C \varepsilon^\alpha |B|_m. \quad (15)$$

We now recall various useful properties of  $(C, \alpha)$ -good functions.

**Lemma 1** ([24, Lemma 3.1])

- (a) If  $f$  is  $(C, \alpha)$ -good on  $V$  then so is  $\gamma f$  for any  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (b) If  $f$  and  $g$  are  $(C, \alpha)$ -good on  $V$  then so is  $\max\{|f|, |g|\}$ .
- (c) If  $f$  is  $(C, \alpha)$ -good on  $V$  then  $f$  is  $(C', \alpha')$ -good on  $V'$  for every  $C' \geq C, \alpha' \leq \alpha$  and  $V' \subseteq V$ .
- (d) If  $f$  is  $(C, \alpha)$ -good on  $V$  and  $c_1 \leq \frac{|f(x)|}{|g(x)|} \leq c_2$  for all  $x \in V$ , then  $g$  is  $(C(c_2/c_1)^\alpha, \alpha)$ -good on  $V$ .

The next lemma is the key tool for establishing that a given function is  $(C, \alpha)$ -good. The following notation is needed to state the lemma. An  $m$ -tuple  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$  of non-negative integers will be referred to as a multiindex and we let  $|\beta| := \beta_1 + \dots + \beta_m$ . Given a multiindex  $\beta$ , let

$$\partial_\beta := \frac{\partial^{|\beta|}}{\partial x_1^{\beta_1} \dots \partial x_m^{\beta_m}} \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_i^k := \frac{\partial^k}{\partial x_i^k}.$$

**Lemma 2** ([24, Lemma 3.3]) *Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and let  $g \in C^{(k)}(U)$  be such that for some constants  $A_1, A_2 > 0$*

$$|\partial_\beta g(\mathbf{x})| \leq A_1 \quad \forall \beta \text{ with } |\beta| \leq k, \quad (16)$$

and

$$|\partial_i^k g(\mathbf{x})| \geq A_2 \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, m \quad (17)$$

for all  $\mathbf{x} \in U$ . Also let  $V$  be a subset of  $U$  such that whenever a ball  $B$  lies in  $V$  any cube circumscribed around  $B$  is contained in  $U$ . Then  $g$  is  $(C, \frac{1}{mk})$ -good on  $V$  for some explicit positive constant  $C$  depending on  $A_1, A_2, m$  and  $k$  only.

The following proposition<sup>1</sup> is a generalization of Proposition 3.4 from [24].

**Proposition 1** *Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  and let  $\mathcal{F} \subset C^{(l)}(U)$  be a compact family of functions  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  for some  $l \geq 2$ . Assume also that*

$$\inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \max_{0 < |\beta| \leq l} |\partial_\beta f(\mathbf{x}_0)| > 0. \quad (18)$$

Then there exists a neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and positive constants  $C$  and  $\delta$  satisfying the following property. For any  $\Theta \in C^{(l)}(U)$  such that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in U} \max_{|\beta| \leq l} |\partial_\beta \Theta(\mathbf{x})| \leq \delta \quad (19)$$

and any  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  we have that

(a)  $f + \Theta$  is  $(C, \frac{1}{ml})$ -good on  $V$ ,

(b)  $|\nabla(f + \Theta)|$  is  $(C, \frac{1}{m(l-1)})$ -good on  $V$ .

---

<sup>1</sup>In Proposition 1 we assume that  $\mathcal{F}$  is compact. This assumption is not made in Proposition 3.4 of [24] although it is used in its proof. Note that the compactness of  $\mathcal{F}$  does not follow from the assumption that  $\{\nabla f : f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is compact. In fact, the family  $\mathcal{F}$  defined in Corollary 3.5 of [24], which is the main application of [24, Proposition 3.4], is not compact. The proof of the corollary as given in [24] is therefore incomplete. Nevertheless, the corollary as stated is correct. These issues are carried over unaddressed into Theorem 4.5 of [41]. In this paper the issues are addressed by our Proposition 1 and Corollary 3.

*Proof.* The proof is a modification of the ideas used to establish Proposition 3.4 in [24]. First of all note that in view of (18), there exists a constant  $C_1 > 0$  such that for any  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  one can find a multiindex  $\beta$  with  $0 < |\beta| = k \leq l$ , where  $k = k(f)$ , such that

$$|\partial_\beta f(\mathbf{x}_0)| \geq C_1. \quad (20)$$

Since the number of different  $\beta$ 's is finite, without loss of generality we can assume that  $\beta$  appearing in (20) is the same for all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ . By an appropriate rotation of the coordinate system one can ensure that

$$|\tilde{\partial}_i^k f(\mathbf{x}_0)| \geq C_2 \quad (21)$$

for all  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and some positive  $C_2$  independent of  $f$ . Here  $\tilde{\partial}$  denotes differentiation with respect to the rotated coordinate system. Also, by (19) there exists a constant  $c = c(l) > 1$  such that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in U} \max_{|\beta| \leq l} |\tilde{\partial}_\beta \Theta(\mathbf{x})| \leq c\delta. \quad (22)$$

Now take  $\delta := C_2/(2c)$ . Then, by (21) and (22), for any  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  we have that

$$|\tilde{\partial}_i^k(f + \Theta)(\mathbf{x}_0)| \geq \delta \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, m.$$

Then, by the continuity of derivatives of  $f + \Theta$  and the compactness of  $\mathcal{F}$ , we can choose a neighborhood  $V' \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and positive constants  $A_1, A_2$  independent of  $f$  such that (16) and (17) with  $\partial$  replaced by  $\tilde{\partial}$  hold for all  $\mathbf{x} \in V'$  and all  $g = f + \Theta$ . Finally, let  $V$  be a smaller neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  such that whenever a ball  $B$  lies in  $V$ , the cube  $\tilde{B}$  circumscribed around  $B$  is contained in  $V'$ . Then, on applying Lemma 2 establishes part (a) of Proposition 1.

Regarding part (b), first assume that  $k$  appearing in (21) is at least 2. Since  $\mathcal{F}$  is compact and differentiation is a continuous map from  $C^{(l)}(U)$  to  $C^{(l-1)}(U)$ , we have that for every  $i = 1, \dots, m$

$$\mathcal{F}_i := \{\tilde{\partial}_i f : f \in \mathcal{F}\} \quad \text{is compact in } C^{(l-1)}(U). \quad (23)$$

In view of the definition of  $\mathcal{F}$  condition (18) holds when  $l$  is replaced by  $l - 1$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  is replaced by  $\mathcal{F}_i$ . Therefore, the arguments used to prove part (a) apply to  $\mathcal{F}_i$  and we conclude that for every  $f \in \mathcal{F}_i$  the function  $\tilde{\partial}_i(f + \Theta)$  is  $(C_i, \frac{1}{m(l-1)})$ -good on some neighborhood  $V_i$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ . It follows via Lemma 1, that  $|\tilde{\nabla}(f + \Theta)|$  is  $(\tilde{C}, \frac{1}{m(l-1)})$ -good with  $\tilde{C} = \max_i C_i$ ,  $V = \cap_i V_i$  and  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ . Naturally,  $\tilde{\nabla}$  denotes the gradient operator with respect to the rotated coordinate system. Now simply notice that the quantity

$$\frac{|\nabla(f + \Theta)(\mathbf{x})|}{|\tilde{\nabla}(f + \Theta)(\mathbf{x})|}$$

for all  $\mathbf{x} \in V$  is bounded between two positive constants. Hence, by making use of part (d) of Lemma 1 we obtain the statement of part (b) of Proposition 1.

It remains to consider the case when  $k$  appearing in (21) is equal to 1. Let  $A_1, A_2$  and  $V$  be defined as in the proof of part (a) above. Then,

$$A_2 \leq |\tilde{\nabla}(f + \Theta)(\mathbf{x})| \leq A_1 \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in V. \quad (24)$$

In view of part (d) of Lemma 1 and the definition of  $(C, \alpha)$ -good functions, to complete the proof it suffices to verify that

$$\left| \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in B : |\tilde{\nabla}(f(\mathbf{x}) + \Theta(\mathbf{x}))| < \varepsilon \sup_{\mathbf{y} \in B} |\tilde{\nabla}(f(\mathbf{y}) + \Theta(\mathbf{y}))| \right\} \right|_m \leq \left( \frac{A_1}{A_2} \right)^{\frac{1}{l-1}} \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{l-1}} |B|_m \quad (25)$$

for any positive  $\varepsilon$  and any  $B \subset V$ . Firstly, note that if  $\varepsilon \geq A_2/A_1$  then the r.h.s. of (25) is at least  $|B|_m$  and so (25) is obviously true. Thus, suppose that  $\varepsilon < A_2/A_1$ . Then in view of (24), the set on the l.h.s. of (25) is empty and again (25) is trivially satisfied. This thereby completes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

**Corollary 3** *Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  and let  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be  $l$ -nondegenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  for some  $l \geq 2$ . Let  $\theta \in C^{(l)}(U)$ . Then there exists a neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and positive constants  $C$  and  $H_0$  such that for any  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying  $|\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0$*

(a)  $a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f} + \theta$  is  $(C, \frac{1}{ml})$ -good on  $V$  for every  $a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , and

(b)  $|\nabla(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f} + \theta)|$  is  $(C, \frac{1}{m(l-1)})$ -good on  $V$ .

*Proof.* To start with choose the neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  so that  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\theta$  are bounded on  $V$ . Then there exists a positive constant  $K$  such that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})| \leq K/(n+1) \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |\theta(\mathbf{x})| \leq K/(n+1). \quad (26)$$

Let  $f$  be the function given by  $f(\mathbf{x}) := a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})$ . Assume for the moment that  $|a_0| \geq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ . Then, on using (26) we find that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in B} |f(\mathbf{x})| \leq 3 \inf_{\mathbf{x} \in B} |f(\mathbf{x})| \quad (27)$$

for any ball  $B \subset V$ . Therefore, if  $\varepsilon < 1/3$  then the set on the l.h.s. of (15) is empty and (15) is trivially satisfied with any positive  $C$  and  $\alpha$ . On the other hand, if  $\varepsilon \geq 1/3$ , then (15) is obviously true for any  $C \geq 3$  and any positive  $\alpha \leq 1$ . The upshot is that part (a) of the corollary holds for any  $C \geq 3$  and  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  whenever  $|a_0| \geq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ . Thus, without loss of generality we will assume that  $|a_0| \leq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the collection of functions of the form  $\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + c_0$ , where  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $|\mathbf{c}| = 1$  and  $|c_0| \leq 2K$ . Using the compactness of the set

$$\{\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n : |\mathbf{c}| = 1\} \times \{c_0 \in \mathbb{R} : |c_0| \leq 2K\},$$

one readily verifies that  $\mathcal{F}$  is compact in  $C^{(l)}(U)$ . This together with the fact that  $\mathbf{f}$  is non-degenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  ensures that  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies (18). Next note that by shrinking the neighborhood  $V$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  if necessary, we have that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} \max_{|\beta| \leq l} |\partial_\beta \theta(\mathbf{x})| \leq M$$

for some positive constant  $M$ . Now let  $C$  and  $\delta$  be the constants associated with Proposition 1 and let

$$H_0 := M/\delta.$$

Consider an arbitrary vector  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $|\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0$  and any real number  $a_0$  such that  $|a_0| \leq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ . Then,  $\Theta$  given by  $\Theta(\mathbf{x}) := \theta(\mathbf{x})/|\mathbf{a}|$  satisfies (19) and

$$f : \mathbf{x} \rightarrow f(\mathbf{x}) := |\mathbf{a}|^{-1}(a_0 + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{a})$$

belongs to the compact family  $\mathcal{F}$ . In view of Proposition 1, the function  $f + \Theta$  given by  $f(\mathbf{x}) + \Theta(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{a}|^{-1}(a_0 + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{a} + \theta(\mathbf{x}))$  satisfies the desired conclusions of the corollary. The assertions for the function without the  $|\mathbf{a}|^{-1}$  multiplier are a simple consequence of part (a) of Lemma 1.  $\square$

**Proposition 2** *Let  $U$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  be as in Proposition 1 and suppose that (18) is valid. Then for any neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ , we have that*

$$\inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |f(\mathbf{x})| > 0.$$

*Proof.* In view of (18) it follows that  $\|f\|_V := \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |f(\mathbf{x})| > 0$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  and any neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ . The map  $f \mapsto \|f\|_V$  is continuous with respect to the  $C^{(0)}$  norm. By the compactness of  $\mathcal{F}$ , we have that  $\inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \|f\|_V = \|f_0\|_V$  for some  $f_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ . The claim of the proposition now follows on combining these facts.  $\square$

**Corollary 4** *Let  $U$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_0$ ,  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\theta$  be as in Corollary 3. Then for every sufficiently small neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ , there exists  $H_0 > 1$  such that*

$$\inf_{\substack{(\mathbf{a}, a_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \\ |\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0}} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| > 0.$$

*Proof.* Consider any neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  for which the inequalities given by (26) are satisfied for some  $K > 0$ . Let  $f$  denote the function given by  $f(\mathbf{x}) := a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})$ . Notice that if  $|a_0| \geq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ , then in view of (26) it follows that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |f(\mathbf{x})| \geq K H_0 > K > 0$$

for any  $(\mathbf{a}, a_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  with  $|\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0 > 1$  and  $|a_0| \geq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ . Thus for the rest of the proof we may assume that  $|a_0| \leq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$ .

As in the proof of Corollary 3, let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the collection of functions of the form  $\mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + c_0$ , where  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $|\mathbf{c}| = 1$  and  $|c_0| \leq 2K$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is a compact subset of  $C^{(l)}(U)$  and since  $\mathbf{f}$  is non-degenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$ , we have that  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies (18). Thus, Proposition 2 implies that  $M := \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |f(\mathbf{x})| > 0$ . Therefore, for any  $(\mathbf{a}, a_0) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  with  $|\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0 > 1$  and  $|a_0| \leq 2K|\mathbf{a}|$  we have that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})| \geq MH_0. \quad (28)$$

Now take  $H_0 > \max\{1, K/M\}$ . Then, by (26) and (28) it follows that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in V} |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| \geq MH_0/2$$

and this completes the proof of the corollary.  $\square$

### 2.2.2 Inhomogeneous Transference Principle

In this section we describe a simplified version of the Inhomogeneous Transference Principle introduced in [17, Section 5]. The simplified version takes into consideration the specific applications that we have in mind. Throughout,  $V$  denotes a finite open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mu$  is  $m$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure restricted to  $V$ . Clearly the support of  $\mu$  is the closure  $\overline{V}$  of  $V$ . For consistency with the notation used in [17], we will write  $\mathbf{S}$  for  $\overline{V}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{T}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  be two countable ‘indexing’ sets and let  $H$  and  $I$  be two maps from  $\mathbf{T} \times \mathcal{A} \times \mathbb{R}^+$  into the set of open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  such that

$$H : (\mathbf{t}, \alpha, \varepsilon) \mapsto H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon) \quad \text{and} \quad I : (\mathbf{t}, \alpha, \varepsilon) \mapsto I_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon). \quad (29)$$

Let  $\Phi$  denote a set of functions  $\phi : \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ . For  $\phi \in \Phi$ , consider the lim sup sets

$$\Lambda_I(\phi) := \limsup_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}} \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} I_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi(\mathbf{t})) \quad \text{and} \quad \Lambda_H(\phi) := \limsup_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}} \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi(\mathbf{t})). \quad (30)$$

The following two key properties enables us to transfer zero  $\mu$ -measure statements for the ‘homogenous’ lim sup sets  $\Lambda_H(\phi)$  to the ‘inhomogenous’ lim sup sets  $\Lambda_I(\phi)$ .

**Intersection Property:** The triple  $(H, I, \Phi)$  is said to satisfy the intersection property if for any  $\phi \in \Phi$  there exists  $\phi^* \in \Phi$  such that for all but finitely many  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  and all distinct  $\alpha, \alpha' \in \mathcal{A}$

$$I_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi(\mathbf{t})) \cap I_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha', \phi(\mathbf{t})) \subset \bigcup_{\alpha'' \in \mathcal{A}} H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha'', \phi^*(\mathbf{t})). \quad (31)$$

**Contracting Property:** We say that  $\mu$  is contracting with respect to  $(I, \Phi)$  if for any  $\phi \in \Phi$  there exists  $\phi^+ \in \Phi$  and a sequence of positive numbers  $\{k_{\mathbf{t}}\}_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}}$  such that

$$\sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}} k_{\mathbf{t}} < \infty \quad (32)$$



and for all but finitely many  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  and all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$  there exists a collection  $C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}$  of balls  $B$  centred in  $\mathbf{S}$  satisfying the following three conditions:

$$\mathbf{S} \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi(\mathbf{t})) \subset \bigcup_{B \in C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}} B, \quad (33)$$

$$\mathbf{S} \cap \bigcup_{B \in C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}} B \subset \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi^+(\mathbf{t})) \quad (34)$$

and

$$\mu(5B \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi(\mathbf{t}))) \leq k_{\mathbf{t}} \mu(5B). \quad (35)$$

The following transference theorem is an immediate consequence of [17, Theorem 5].

**Theorem 5** *Suppose that  $(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{I}, \Phi)$  satisfies the intersection property and  $\mu$  is contracting with respect to  $(\mathbf{I}, \Phi)$ . Then*

$$\forall \phi \in \Phi \quad \mu(\Lambda_{\mathbf{H}}(\phi)) = 0 \quad \implies \quad \forall \phi \in \Phi \quad \mu(\Lambda_{\mathbf{I}}(\phi)) = 0. \quad (36)$$

## 2.3 Establishing Case B

Recall that our aim is to show that  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi, \theta)|_m = 0$ , where  $\Psi$  satisfies (1) and (7). Using (1) and (7) one readily verifies that

$$\Psi(\mathbf{a}) < \Psi_0(\mathbf{a}) := \prod_{\substack{i=1 \\ a_i \neq 0}}^n |a_i|^{-1} \quad (37)$$

for all but finitely many  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . Therefore,

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi, \theta) \subset \mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi_0, \theta) \quad (38)$$

and so it suffices to show that  $|\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi_0, \theta)|_m = 0$ . With reference to the inhomogeneous transference framework of §2.2.2, let  $\mathbf{T} := (\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})^n$  and  $\mathcal{A} := \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\} \times \mathbb{Z}$ . Define the auxiliary function  $r : \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by setting

$$r(\mathbf{t}) := \sqrt{2(n+1)mC_0} \cdot 2^{|\mathbf{t}|/2} \quad (39)$$

where  $C_0$  is as in (6). Then, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  and  $\alpha = (\mathbf{a}, a_0) \in \mathcal{A}$ , let

$$\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon) := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in U : \begin{array}{ll} |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| < \varepsilon \Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}) \\ |\nabla(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}))| < \varepsilon r(\mathbf{t}) \\ 2^{t_i} \leq \max\{1, |a_i|\} < 2^{t_i+1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n) \end{array} \right\} \quad (40)$$

and

$$H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon) := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in U : \begin{array}{l} |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})| < 2\varepsilon \Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}) \\ |\nabla(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}))| < 2\varepsilon r(\mathbf{t}) \\ |a_i| < 2^{t_i+2} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n) \end{array} \right\} \quad (41)$$

where  $2^{\mathbf{t}} := (2^{t_1}, \dots, 2^{t_n})$ . This defines the maps  $H$  and  $I$  – see (29). Furthermore, given  $\delta \in \mathbb{R}$ , let  $\phi_\delta : \mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be given by

$$\phi_\delta(\mathbf{t}) := 2^{\delta|\mathbf{t}|}, \quad (42)$$

and let

$$\Phi := \left\{ \phi_\delta : 0 \leq \delta < \frac{1}{4} \right\}.$$

For any  $\delta \in [0, 1/4)$ , it follows that

$$\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}^2(\Psi_0, \theta) \subset \Lambda_I(\phi_\delta)$$

where  $\Lambda_I(\phi_\delta)$  is the ‘inhomogenous’ lim sup set as defined by (30). Therefore, in view of (38), to establish Case B it suffices to show that

$$|\Lambda_I(\phi_\delta)|_m = 0 \quad \text{for some } \delta \in [0, \frac{1}{4}). \quad (43)$$

With this in mind, let  $\mathbf{x}_0$  be any point in  $U$  at which  $\mathbf{f}$  is  $l$ -non-degenerate and let  $V$  be a sufficiently small open ball centred at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  such that Corollary 3 and the following statement are valid on  $V$ .

**Theorem 6** ([24, Theorem 1.4]) *Let  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  and  $\mathbf{f} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be  $l$ -nondegenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$ . Then there exists a neighborhood  $V \subset U$ , of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  satisfying the following property. For any ball  $B \subset V$  there exist  $E > 0$  such that for any choice of real numbers  $\omega, K, T_1, \dots, T_n$  satisfying the inequalities*

$$0 < \omega \leq 1, \quad T_1, \dots, T_n \geq 1, \quad K > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\omega K T_1 \cdots T_n}{\max_i T_i} \leq 1$$

*the set*

$$S(\omega, K, T_1, \dots, T_n) := \left\{ x \in B : \exists \mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\} \text{ such that } \begin{array}{l} \|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{q}\| < \omega \\ |\nabla \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{q}| < K \\ |q_i| < T_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq n) \end{array} \right\}$$

*has  $m$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure at most  $E \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{m(2l-1)}} |B|_m$ , where*

$$\varepsilon := \max \left( \omega, \left( \frac{\omega K T_1 \cdots T_n}{\max_i T_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{n+1}} \right). \quad (44)$$

Furthermore, let  $\mu$  be  $m$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure restricted to  $V$ . Since  $\mathbf{f}$  is  $l$ -non-degenerate almost everywhere, the desired statement (43) follows on showing that

$$\mu(\Lambda_I(\phi_\delta)) = 0 \quad \text{for some } \delta \in [0, \tfrac{1}{4}). \quad (45)$$

For this, we make use of the Inhomogeneous Transference Principle. Indeed, suppose for the moment that  $(H, I, \Phi)$  satisfies the intersection property and  $\mu$  is contracting with respect to  $(I, \Phi)$ . Then, in view of Theorem 5, to establish (45) it suffices to show that

$$\mu(\Lambda_H(\phi_\delta)) = 0 \quad \forall \delta \in [0, \tfrac{1}{4}). \quad (46)$$

Armed with Theorem 6, it is relatively painless to establish (46). Fix any  $\delta \in [0, 1/4)$  and notice that in view of (41) it follows that

$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})) = S(\omega, K, T_1, \dots, T_n)$$

with

$$\omega = 2\phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})\Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}), \quad K = 2\phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})r(\mathbf{t}) \quad \text{and} \quad T_i = 2^{t_i+2} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n).$$

Using the explicit values of  $\Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}})$ ,  $r(\mathbf{t})$  and  $\phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})$  given by (37), (39) and (42) respectively, we find that the quantity  $\varepsilon$  defined by (44) satisfies

$$\varepsilon \ll 2^{-\frac{(1/2-2\delta)}{n+1}|\mathbf{t}|}.$$

Therefore, Theorem 6 implies that

$$\left| \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})) \right|_m \ll 2^{-\gamma|\mathbf{t}|} \quad (47)$$

where  $\gamma := \frac{(1/2-2\delta)}{m(n+1)(2l-1)}$  is a positive constant. The upshot is that

$$\sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}} |\cup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} H_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta(\mathbf{t}))|_m \ll \sum_{\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{Z}^n} 2^{-\gamma|\mathbf{t}|} < \infty,$$

which together with the Borel-Cantelli lemma implies the desired zero measure statement

$$\mu(\Lambda_H(\phi_\delta)) = 0.$$

It remains to verify the intersection and contracting properties.

### 2.3.1 Verifying the intersection property

Let  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  with  $|\mathbf{t}| \geq 2$  and suppose that

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t})) \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha', \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))$$

for some distinct  $\alpha = (\mathbf{a}, a_0)$  and  $\alpha' = (\mathbf{a}', a'_0)$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then, by (40) and (41) we have that

$$\begin{cases} |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| < \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) \Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}) \\ |a'_0 + \mathbf{a}' \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| < \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) \Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}) \\ |\nabla(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}))| < \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) r(\mathbf{t}) \\ |\nabla(\mathbf{a}' \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}))| < \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) r(\mathbf{t}) \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} |a_i| < 2^{t_i+1} & (1 \leq i \leq n) \\ |a'_i| < 2^{t_i+1} & (1 \leq i \leq n), \end{cases}$$

where  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) = \mathbf{a}$  and  $(a'_1, \dots, a'_n) = \mathbf{a}'$ . Subtracting the first inequality from the second within each of the above three systems gives

$$\begin{cases} |a''_0 + \mathbf{a}'' \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})| < 2\phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) \Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}) \\ |\nabla(\mathbf{a}'' \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}))| < 2\phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) r(\mathbf{t}) \\ |a''_i| < 2^{t_i+2} & (1 \leq i \leq n), \end{cases} \quad (48)$$

where  $\mathbf{a}'' = (a''_1, \dots, a''_n) := \mathbf{a}' - \mathbf{a}$  and  $a''_0 := a'_0 - a_0$ . Regarding the first of the above inequalities, by (37) and the definition of  $\Phi$ , we have that  $\phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) \Psi_0(2^{\mathbf{t}}) < 2^{-\frac{3}{4}|\mathbf{t}|}$ . Suppose for the moment that  $\mathbf{a}'' = 0$ . Since  $\alpha, \alpha' \in \mathcal{A}$  are distinct, we must have that  $a'_0 \neq a_0$  and so

$$|a''_0 + \mathbf{a}'' \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})| = |a''_0| \geq 1.$$

However, for any  $\mathbf{t}$  with  $|\mathbf{t}| \geq 2$ , this contradicts the first inequality of (48). Hence  $\mathbf{a}'' \neq 0$  and it follows that  $\alpha'' \in \mathcal{A}$ . The upshot is that  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha'', \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))$  and therefore (31) is satisfied with  $\phi^* = \phi_{\delta}$ . This verifies the intersection property.

### 2.3.2 Verifying the contracting property

To start with recall that  $V$  is a sufficiently small open ball such that Corollary 3 is valid on  $V$ . Thus, there exist positive numbers  $H_0$  and  $C$  such that for any  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  and  $\alpha = (\mathbf{a}, a_0) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfying  $|\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0$  both  $a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f} + \theta$  and  $|\nabla(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f} + \theta)|$  are  $(C, \frac{1}{ml})$ -good on  $5V$ . In turn, by Lemma 1, for any  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  and  $\alpha = (\mathbf{a}, a_0) \in \mathcal{A}$  satisfying  $|\mathbf{a}| \geq H_0$  we have that

$$\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t}, \alpha} \text{ is } (C, \frac{1}{ml})\text{-good on } 5V, \quad (49)$$

where  $\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the function given by

$$\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) := \max \left\{ \Psi_0^{-1}(2^{\mathbf{t}})r(\mathbf{t})|a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})|, |\nabla(\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}))| \right\}.$$

Notice that the first two inequalities of (40) are equivalent to the single inequality

$$\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) < \varepsilon r(\mathbf{t}).$$

Therefore, by definition

$$\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon) = \{\mathbf{x} \in U : \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) < \varepsilon r(\mathbf{t})\} \quad (50)$$

if

$$2^{t_i} \leq \max\{1, |a_i|\} < 2^{t_i+1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n). \quad (51)$$

Obviously, if (51) is not fulfilled then  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon) = \emptyset$  irrespective of  $\varepsilon$ .

Next, given  $\phi_\delta \in \Phi$  let

$$\phi_\delta^+ := \phi_{\frac{1}{2}(\delta + \frac{1}{4})}.$$

Clearly,  $\phi_\delta^+$  also lies in  $\Phi$ . It is easily seen that  $\phi_\delta(\mathbf{t}) \leq \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t})$  for all  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  and therefore

$$\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})) \subset \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t})). \quad (52)$$

We now construct the collection  $C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}$  of balls centred in  $V$  that satisfy the conditions (33)–(35) for an appropriate sequence  $k_{\mathbf{t}}$ . If  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta(\mathbf{t})) = \emptyset$ , the collection  $C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha} = \emptyset$  obviously suffices. Thus, we can assume that (51) is satisfied and so  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \varepsilon)$  is defined by (50). By (37) and the definition of  $\Phi$ , it follows that

$$\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t})) \subset \{\mathbf{x} \in U : |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| < 2^{-\frac{3}{4}|\mathbf{t}|}\}.$$

As already pointed out above,  $a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f} + \theta$  is  $(C, \frac{1}{ml})$ -good on  $5V$  for all sufficiently large  $|\mathbf{a}|$ . Therefore, by the definition of  $(C, \alpha)$ -good (Definition 1) and Corollary 4 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t})) \cap V|_m &\leq |\{\mathbf{x} \in V : |a_0 + \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| < 2^{-\frac{3}{4}|\mathbf{t}|}\}|_m \\ &\ll 2^{-\frac{3|\mathbf{t}|}{4ml}} |V|_m, \end{aligned}$$

whenever  $|\mathbf{t}|$  is sufficiently large. Hence,

$$\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t})) \not\subset V \quad \text{for all sufficiently large } |\mathbf{t}|. \quad (53)$$

By (52) and the fact that  $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t}))$  is open, for every  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{S} \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta(\mathbf{t}))$  there is a ball  $B'(\mathbf{x})$  centred at  $\mathbf{x}$  such that

$$B'(\mathbf{x}) \subset \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_\delta^+(\mathbf{t})). \quad (54)$$

On combining (53), (54) and the fact that  $V$  is bounded, we find that there exists a scaling factor  $\tau \geq 1$  such that the ball  $B = B(\mathbf{x}) := \tau B'(\mathbf{x})$  satisfies

$$\mathbf{S} \cap B(\mathbf{x}) \subset \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}^+(\mathbf{t})) \not\subset \mathbf{S} \cap 5B(\mathbf{x}) \quad (55)$$

and

$$5B(\mathbf{x}) \subset 5V. \quad (56)$$

We now let

$$C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha} := \{B(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{S} \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))\}.$$

Then, by construction and the l.h.s. of (55), conditions (33) and (34) are automatically satisfied. Regarding condition (35), consider any ball  $B \in C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}$ . By (50) and the r.h.s. of (55), we have that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in 5B} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in 5B \cap \mathbf{S}} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \phi_{\delta}^+(\mathbf{t}) r(\mathbf{t}). \quad (57)$$

On the other hand,

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in 5B \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \leq \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}) r(\mathbf{t}). \quad (58)$$

Then, in view of the definitions of  $\phi_{\delta}$ ,  $\phi_{\delta}^+$  and  $r(\mathbf{t})$ , we obtain via (57) and (58) that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in 5B \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 2^{-\frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{4}-\delta)|\mathbf{t}|} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in 5B} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}). \quad (59)$$

Now notice that since (51) holds, we have that  $|\mathbf{a}| > H_0$  for all  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$  with  $|\mathbf{t}|$  sufficiently large. Thus, whenever  $|\mathbf{t}|$  is sufficiently large, (49) is valid which together with (56) and (59) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| 5B \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t})) \right|_m &\leq \left| \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in 5B : |\mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x})| \leq 2^{-\frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{4}-\delta)|\mathbf{t}|} \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in 5B} \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}(\mathbf{x}) \right\} \right|_m \\ &\leq C 2^{-\delta^*|\mathbf{t}|} |5B|_m \end{aligned} \quad (60)$$

where  $\delta^* := \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{4} - \delta) \frac{1}{lm} > 0$ . On using the fact that  $B$  is centred in  $V \subset \mathbf{S}$ , we have that  $|5B|_m \leq c_m \mu(5B)$  for some constant  $c_m$  depending on  $m$  only. Hence (60) implies that for all but finitely many  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbf{T}$

$$\mu(5B \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))) \leq |5B \cap \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{t}}(\alpha, \phi_{\delta}(\mathbf{t}))|_m \leq c_m C 2^{-\delta^*|\mathbf{t}|} \mu(5B).$$

This verifies (35) with

$$k_{\mathbf{t}} := c_m C 2^{-\delta^*|\mathbf{t}|}.$$

Furthermore, it is easily seen that the convergence condition (32) is fulfilled. The upshot is that all the conditions of the contracting property are satisfied for the collection  $C_{\mathbf{t},\alpha}$  as defined above.

### 3 The divergence theory

The goal is to prove Theorems 2 & 3. Thus, throughout  $s > m - 1$  and  $\Psi$  is a multivariable approximating function satisfying property **P** and the divergent sum condition

$$\sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\}} |\mathbf{a}| \left( \frac{\Psi(\mathbf{a})}{|\mathbf{a}|} \right)^{s+1-m} = \infty. \quad (61)$$

Without loss of generality, we will assume that the vector  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  appearing in the definition of property **P** satisfies

$$v_1 = |\mathbf{v}| = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |v_i|. \quad (62)$$

#### 3.1 Theorem 3 $\Rightarrow$ Theorem 2

We will need the following technical lemma.

**Lemma 3** *Let  $\mu$  be a finite doubling Borel regular measure on a metric space  $(X, d)$  such that  $X$  can be covered by a countable collection of arbitrarily small balls. Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be a uniformly continuous bounded function and let  $\nu$  be a measure on  $X$  given by*

$$\nu(A) := \int_A f(x) d\mu(x) \quad (63)$$

*for every measurable set  $A \subset X$ . Let  $\{S_Q\}_{Q \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of measurable subsets of  $X$  and  $0 < \omega < 1$  be a constant. Suppose that for every sufficiently small closed ball  $B \subset X$*

$$\limsup_{Q \rightarrow \infty} \mu(S_Q \cap B) \leq \omega \mu(B). \quad (64)$$

*Then for every measurable set  $W \subset X$*

$$\limsup_{Q \rightarrow \infty} \nu(S_Q \cap W) \leq \omega \nu(W). \quad (65)$$

*Proof.* Let  $W$  be any measurable set in  $X$ . For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  there is a finite collection  $\mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}$  of disjoint closed balls with radii  $< \delta$  such that

$$\mu(W \Delta W_{\varepsilon, \delta}) < \varepsilon, \quad (66)$$

where  $A \Delta B = (A \setminus B) \cup (B \setminus A)$  and  $W_{\varepsilon, \delta} := \bigcup_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} B$ . The latter is a consequence of [36, Theorem 2.2.2] and the discussion of [11, p.28]. Since  $f$  is bounded, there is a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $\nu(A) \leq C\mu(A)$  for every measurable set  $A$ . Therefore, (66) implies that

$$\nu(W \Delta W_{\varepsilon, \delta}) < C\varepsilon. \quad (67)$$

For every  $B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}$  let  $s_B := \sup_{x \in B} f(x)$ . Since  $f$  is bounded,  $s_B < \infty$ . Next, since  $f$  is uniformly continuous, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that for every  $B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}$

$$0 \leq s_B - f(x) < \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } x \in B. \quad (68)$$

Since  $\mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}$  is finite, property (64) implies that there is a sufficiently large  $Q_0$  such that for all  $Q \geq Q_0$  and any  $B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}$  we have that

$$\mu(S_Q \cap B) \leq (\omega + \varepsilon) \mu(B). \quad (69)$$

Then for  $Q \geq Q_0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nu(S_Q \cap W) &\stackrel{(66)}{\leq} \varepsilon + \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} \nu(S_Q \cap B) \\ &\stackrel{(63)}{=} \varepsilon + \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} \int_{S_Q \cap B} f(x) d\mu(x) \\ &\stackrel{(68)}{\leq} \varepsilon + \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} s_B \int_{S_Q \cap B} d\mu(x) \\ &= \varepsilon + \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} s_B \mu(S_Q \cap B) \\ &\stackrel{(69)}{\leq} \varepsilon + (\omega + \varepsilon) \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} s_B \mu(B) \\ &\stackrel{(68)}{\leq} \varepsilon + (\omega + \varepsilon) \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_{\varepsilon, \delta}} \int_B (f(x) + \varepsilon) d\mu(x) \\ &= \varepsilon + (\omega + \varepsilon) \int_{W_{\delta, \varepsilon}} (f(x) + \varepsilon) d\mu(x) \\ &= \varepsilon + (\omega + \varepsilon) (\nu(W_{\delta, \varepsilon}) + \varepsilon \mu(W_{\delta, \varepsilon})) \\ &\stackrel{(66) \& (67)}{\leq} \varepsilon + (\omega + \varepsilon) (\nu(W) + C\varepsilon + \varepsilon(\mu(W) + \varepsilon)). \end{aligned}$$

The latter expression tends to  $\omega \nu(W)$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Since  $\nu(S_Q \cap W)$  is independent of  $\varepsilon$ , we obtain (65) and complete the proof.

Let  $\mathbf{f} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a map defined on an open set  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ . Given an  $n$ -tuple  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  of positive numbers satisfying  $v_1 + \dots + v_n = n$ ,  $\delta > 0$  and  $Q > 1$ , let

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta) = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in U : \exists \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n \setminus \{0\} \text{ such that } \|\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\| < \delta Q^{-n} \text{ and } |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq Q \right\}.$$

**Definition 2** We will say that  $\mathbf{f}$  is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  if there is a neighborhood  $U_0 \subset U$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and constants  $0 < \delta, \omega < 1$  such that for any sufficiently small ball  $B \subset U_0$  we have that

$$\limsup_{Q \rightarrow \infty} |\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta) \cap B|_m \leq \omega |B|_m.$$

The map  $\mathbf{f}$  is said to be  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice if it is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at almost every point in  $U$ . Furthermore,  $\mathbf{f}$  is said to be nice if it is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice for all choices of  $\mathbf{v}$ .



Let  $A \subset U$  be any Lebesgue measurable set. Define the measure

$$\nu(A) = \int_{\mathbf{f}^{-1}(S)} |\det G(\mathbf{x})|^{1/2} d\mathbf{x},$$

where  $G(\mathbf{x}) = (g_{i,j}(x))_{1 \leq i,j \leq m}$  with  $\mathbf{g}_{i,j} = \partial \mathbf{f} / \partial x_i \cdot \partial \mathbf{f} / \partial x_j$ .  $G(\mathbf{x})$  is called the first fundamental form. It is well known that the induced measure of a set  $S$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  is given by  $\nu(A)$  with  $A = \mathbf{f}^{-1}(S)$ . Clearly

$$|A|_m = \int_A |\det G(\mathbf{x})|^{-1/2} d\nu(\mathbf{x}).$$

Since  $\mathbf{f}$  is Monge,  $|\det G(\mathbf{x})|$  bounded away from both zero and infinity on a sufficiently small neighborhood of any point. Then, by Lemma 3, we obtain the following

**Proposition 3** *Let  $\mathbf{f} : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a  $C^2$  parameterisation of a  $C^2$  manifold  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  and  $\mathbf{y}_0 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0)$ . Then  $\mathbf{f}$  is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  if and only if  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at  $\mathbf{y}_0$ .*

In view of this proposition the following lemma easily implies that non-degenerate manifolds are nice and so Theorem 3  $\Rightarrow$  Theorem 2.

**Lemma 4** *Let  $\mathbf{f}$  be non-degenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$ . Then there is a ball  $B_0 \subset U$  centred at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and a constant  $C > 0$  such that for any ball  $B \subset B_0$  we have  $|\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta) \cap B|_m \leq C\delta|B|_m$  for all sufficiently large  $Q$ .*

This lemma is a consequence of Theorems 1.3 and 1.4 appearing in [24] also stated as Theorems 4 and 6 in §2. In the case  $\mathbf{v} = (1, \dots, 1)$  the proof of Lemma 4 is given in [10, Theorem 2.1]. For arbitrary  $\mathbf{v}$  the arguments remain quite the same with the obvious change that the supremum norm is replaced by  $\mathbf{v}$ -quasinorm. Since the details are easily recovered from [10, Theorem 2.1], they are left to the reader.

### 3.2 Ubiquitous systems in $\mathbb{R}^m$

The proof of Theorem 3 will make use of the ubiquity framework developed in [11]. The framework introduced below is a much simplified version of that in [11] and takes into consideration the specific application that we have in mind.

Throughout, balls in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  are assumed to be defined in terms of the supremum norm  $|\cdot|$ . Let  $U$  be a ball in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mathcal{R} = (R_\alpha)_{\alpha \in J}$  be a family of subsets  $R_\alpha \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  indexed by a countable set  $J$ . The sets  $R_\alpha$  are referred to as *resonant sets*. Throughout,  $\rho : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  will denote a function such that  $\rho(r) \rightarrow 0$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ . Given a set  $A \subset U$ , let

$$\Delta(A, r) := \{\mathbf{x} \in U : \text{dist}(\mathbf{x}, A) < r\}$$

where  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{x}, A) := \inf\{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a}| : \mathbf{a} \in A\}$ . Next, let  $\beta : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ : \alpha \mapsto \beta_\alpha$  be a positive function on  $J$ . Thus the function  $\beta$  attaches a ‘weight’  $\beta_\alpha$  to the set  $R_\alpha$ . We will assume that for every  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  the set  $J_t = \{\alpha \in J : \beta_\alpha \leq 2^t\}$  is finite.

**The intersection conditions:** There exists a constant  $\gamma$  with  $0 \leq \gamma \leq m$  such that for any sufficiently large  $t$  and for any  $\alpha \in J_t$ ,  $c \in R_\alpha$  and  $0 < \lambda \leq \rho(2^t)$  the following conditions are satisfied:

$$|B(c, \frac{1}{2}\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta(R_\alpha, \lambda)|_m \geq c_1 |B(c, \lambda)|_m \left( \frac{\rho(2^t)}{\lambda} \right)^\gamma \quad (70)$$

$$|B \cap B(c, 3\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta(R_\alpha, 3\lambda)|_m \leq c_2 |B(c, \lambda)|_m \left( \frac{r(B)}{\lambda} \right)^\gamma \quad (71)$$

where  $B$  is an arbitrary ball centred on a resonant set with radius  $r(B) \leq 3\rho(2^t)$ . The constants  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are positive and absolute. The constant  $\gamma$  is referred to as the *common dimension* of  $\mathcal{R}$ .

**Definition 3** Suppose that there exists a ubiquitous function  $\rho$  and an absolute constant  $k > 0$  such that for any ball  $B \subseteq U$

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left| \bigcup_{\alpha \in J_t} \Delta(R_\alpha, \rho(2^t)) \cap B \right|_m \geq k |B|_m. \quad (72)$$

Furthermore, suppose the intersection conditions (70) and 71 are satisfied. Then the system  $(\mathcal{R}, \beta)$  is called *locally ubiquitous in  $U$  relative to  $\rho$* .

Let  $(\mathcal{R}, \beta)$  be a ubiquitous system in  $U$  relative to  $\rho$  and  $\phi$  be an approximating function. Let  $\Lambda(\phi)$  be the set of points  $\mathbf{x} \in U$  such that the inequality

$$\text{dist}(\mathbf{x}, R_\alpha) < \phi(\beta_\alpha) \quad (73)$$

holds for infinitely many  $\alpha \in J$ .

**Lemma 5 (Ubiquity Lemma)** *Let  $\phi$  be an approximating function and  $(\mathcal{R}, \beta)$  be a locally ubiquitous system in  $U$  relative to  $\rho$ . Suppose that there is a  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$  such that  $\rho(2^{t+1}) < \lambda\rho(2^t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then for any  $s > \gamma$*

$$\mathcal{H}^s(\Lambda(\phi)) = \mathcal{H}^s(U) \quad \text{if} \quad \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(2^t)^{s-\gamma}}{\rho(2^t)^{m-\gamma}} = \infty. \quad (74)$$

*Remark.* When  $s > m$ , we have that  $\mathcal{H}^s(\Lambda(\phi)) = \mathcal{H}^s(U) = 0$  and the lemma is trivial. In the case  $s = m$  it is a consequence of [11, Corollary 2] and in the case  $s < m$  it is a consequence of [11, Corollary 4].

### 3.3 The appropriate ubiquitous system for Theorem 3

Recall from §1 that  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_n) : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a non-degenerate map satisfying (6), where  $U$  is a ball in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Also recall that  $\theta : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a  $C^{(2)}$  function. Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  denote the set of all functions  $F : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = a_0 + a_1 f_1(\mathbf{x}) + a_2 f_2(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + a_n f_n(\mathbf{x}),$$

where  $a_0, \dots, a_n$  are integer coefficients not all zero. Given  $F \in \mathcal{F}_n$ , let

$$\tilde{R}_F := \{\mathbf{x} \in U : F(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}) = 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad H_{\mathbf{v}}(F) := \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |a_i|^{1/v_i}. \quad (75)$$

The key to establishing Theorem 3 is the following ubiquity statement. With reference to the abstract setup of §3.2, the indexing set  $J = \mathcal{F}_n$  and so  $F$  plays the role of  $\alpha \in J$ .

**Proposition 4** *Let  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  be such that  $\mathbf{f}$  is non-degenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$ . Then there is a neighborhood  $U_0$  of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ , constants  $\kappa_0 > 0$  and  $\kappa_1 > 1$  and a collection  $\mathcal{R} := (R_F)_{F \in \mathcal{F}_n}$  of sets  $R_F \subset \tilde{R}_F \cap U_0$  such that the system  $(\mathcal{R}, \beta)$ , where*

$$\beta : \mathcal{F}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ : F \mapsto \beta_F := \kappa_0 H_{\mathbf{v}}(F),$$

*is locally ubiquitous in  $U_0$  relative to  $\rho(r) := \kappa_1 r^{-n-v_1}$  with common dimension  $\gamma := m - 1$ .*

The sets  $\tilde{R}_F$  are essentially the appropriate resonant sets. However, to ensure that the intersection conditions associated with ubiquity are satisfied, in particular, the lower bound condition (70), we cannot in general work with the sets  $\tilde{R}_F$  directly. In the following two examples  $\tilde{R}_F$  does not meet the intersection conditions.

*Example 1.*  $m = 2, n = 3, \gamma = 1, U = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 1\}, f(x_1, x_2) = \sqrt{1 - x_1^2 - x_2^2}, \mathbf{a} = (-1, 0, 0, 1)$  so that  $F = f - 1$ . In this case  $\tilde{R}_F = \{(0, 0)\}$ . Then the l.h.s. of (70) is comparable to  $\lambda^2$ , while the r.h.s. of (70) is comparable to  $\lambda \rho(2^t)$ .

*Example 2.*  $m = 2, n = 3, \gamma = 1, U = (\alpha, 1)^2$ , where  $\alpha < 1$  is a Liouville number,  $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$ . Suppose that  $0 < \alpha - p/q < q^{-v}$  for infinitely many  $p/q \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Consider  $\mathbf{a} = (q, q, 0, -p)$ . It is a simple matter to verify that  $\tilde{R}_F$  will be the line segment of positive length  $\sqrt{2}(p/q - \alpha) < \sqrt{2}q^{-v}$ . For large  $v$  this will be too short to meet (70).

The upshot is that the sets  $\tilde{R}_F$  need to be modified in an appropriate manner to yield the resonant sets  $R_F$  – namely via the ‘trimming’ procedure of §3.4.

### 3.3.1 Proof of Theorem 3 modulo Proposition 4

Fix  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  such that  $\mathbf{f}$  is non-degenerate at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and let  $U_0$  be as in Proposition 4. Since  $\mathbf{f}$  is non-degenerate (i.e.  $\mathbf{f}$  is non-degenerate at almost every point in  $U$ ), it suffices to prove that

$$\mathcal{H}^s(\mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta) \cap U_0) = \mathcal{H}^s(U_0). \quad (76)$$

With reference to §3.2, let  $U = U_0$  and

$$\phi(r) := (2nC_0)^{-1}(\kappa_0^{-1}r)^{-v_1} \psi(\kappa_0^{-1}r).$$

Here the approximating function  $\psi$  and the vector  $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  are associated with the fact that  $\Psi$  is a multivariable approximation function satisfying property **P**. Our first goal is to show that

$$\Lambda(\phi) \subset \mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{f}}(\Psi, \theta). \quad (77)$$

Let  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_m) \in \Lambda(\phi)$ . By definition,  $\Lambda(\phi)$  is a subset of  $U_0$  and inequality (73) is satisfied for infinitely many  $F = a_0 + a_1 f_1 + \dots + a_n f_n \in \mathcal{F}_n$  – recall that we have identified  $\alpha$  with  $F$  and  $J$  with  $\mathcal{F}_n$ . Now fix such a function  $F$ . Then, by the definition of  $\beta$  and the properties of  $R_F$  within Proposition 4, there exists a point  $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_m) \in U_0$  such that  $F(\mathbf{z}) + \theta(\mathbf{z}) = 0$  and

$$|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}| < \phi(\kappa_0 H_{\mathbf{v}}(F)). \quad (78)$$

Thus, by the Mean Value Theorem it follows that there exists some  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in U_0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} |F(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| &= \left| \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (F + \theta)(\tilde{\mathbf{x}})(x_i - z_i) \right| \\ &\leq |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}| \sum_{i=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n a_j f_j + \theta \right)(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \right| \\ &\stackrel{(6)}{\leq} 2nC_0 |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{z}| \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |a_j| \\ &\stackrel{(78)}{\leq} 2nC_0 \phi(\kappa_0 H_{\mathbf{v}}(F)) \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |a_j| \\ &\stackrel{(62)+(75)}{\leq} 2nC_0 \phi(\kappa_0 H_{\mathbf{v}}(F)) H_{\mathbf{v}}(F)^{v_1} \\ &\leq \psi(H_{\mathbf{v}}(F)) = \Psi(\mathbf{a}). \end{aligned}$$

The upshot is that there are infinitely many  $F \in \mathcal{F}_n$  satisfying the above inequalities. This verifies (77) and together with Lemma 5 implies (76) as long as the sum in (74) diverges. We now verify this divergent condition. Recall that  $\gamma := m - 1$  and so

$$\sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(2^t)^{s-m+1}}{\rho(2^t)} \asymp \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2^{-v_1 t} \psi(\kappa_0^{-1} 2^t))^{s-m+1}}{2^{-(n+v_1)t}}. \quad (79)$$

On using the fact that  $v_1 + \dots + v_n = n$ , it follows that for any  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  the number of  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that  $\kappa_0 2^t < |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq \kappa_0 2^{t+1}$  is comparable to  $2^{nt}$ . Also, by (62) we have that  $|\mathbf{a}| \asymp 2^{v_1 t}$  whenever  $\kappa_0 2^t < |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq \kappa_0 2^{t+1}$ . Therefore,

$$\text{r.h.s. of (79)} \asymp \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\kappa_0 2^t < |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq \kappa_0 2^{t+1}} |\mathbf{a}| \left( \frac{\psi(\kappa_0^{-1} 2^t)}{|\mathbf{a}|} \right)^{s-m+1}. \quad (80)$$

Next, since  $\psi$  is decreasing, it follows that  $\psi(\kappa_0^{-1} 2^t) \geq \psi(|\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}}) = \Psi(\mathbf{a})$  whenever  $\kappa_0 2^t < |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq \kappa_0 2^{t+1}$ . Therefore,

$$\text{r.h.s. of (80)} \gg \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\kappa_0 2^t < |\mathbf{a}|_{\mathbf{v}} \leq \kappa_0 2^{t+1}} |\mathbf{a}| \left( \frac{\Psi(\mathbf{a})}{|\mathbf{a}|} \right)^{s-m+1} \asymp \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}} |\mathbf{a}| \left( \frac{\Psi(\mathbf{a})}{|\mathbf{a}|} \right)^{s-m+1} \stackrel{(61)}{=} \infty.$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 3 modulo Proposition 4.

### 3.4 The resonant sets

The sets  $\tilde{R}_F$  given by (75) are essentially the appropriate resonant sets. However, to ensure that the intersection properties associated with ubiquity are satisfied, these sets are required to be modified. In what follows the projection map  $\pi : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m-1}$  will be given by

$$\pi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) = (x_2, \dots, x_m). \quad (81)$$

**Proposition 5** *Let  $\rho$  and  $\beta$  be the same as in Proposition 4. Let  $U_0 \subset U$  be any open subset. For  $F \in \mathcal{F}_n$  let*

$$\tilde{V} := \pi(\tilde{R}_F \cap U_0), \quad V := \bigcup_{3\rho(\beta_F)\text{-balls } B \subset \tilde{V}} \frac{1}{2}B \quad \text{and} \quad R_F = \pi^{-1}(W) \cap \tilde{R}_F, \quad (82)$$

where  $3\rho(\beta_F)$ -balls are simply open balls in  $\mathbb{R}^{m-1}$  of radius  $3\rho(\beta_F)$ . Let  $p \in (0, 1)$  and suppose that

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{x}) \right| > p |\nabla(F + \theta)(\mathbf{x})| \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in U_0. \quad (83)$$

Then,  $R_F$  satisfies the intersection conditions (70) and (71) with

$$c_1 = 2^{-2m+3} v_m^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad c_2 = 3m2^m (p v_m)^{-1},$$

where  $v_m$  is the volume of an  $m$ -dimensional ball of radius 1.

*Proof.* Let  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{F}_n$  and  $\beta_F \leq 2^t$ . In view of (83) the gradient of  $F + \theta$  never vanishes on  $U_0$  and therefore the set  $\tilde{R}_F \cap U_0 = \{\mathbf{x} \in U_0 : F(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}) = 0\}$  is a regular  $C^{(2)}$   $(m-1)$ -dimensional submanifold of  $U_0$ . This is a well known fact in differential

geometry – see, for example, [43, Theorem 1.13]. Furthermore, (83) together with the Implicit Function Theorem imply that this set can be defined as the graph  $G_f(\tilde{V})$  of a  $C^{(2)}$  function  $f : \tilde{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where

$$G_f(S) := \{(f(x_2, \dots, x_m), x_2, \dots, x_m) : (x_2, \dots, x_m) \in S\}$$

for  $S \subset \tilde{V}$ . Then, by the definition of  $R_F$ , we have that  $R_F = G_f(V)$ . If  $R_F$  happens to be empty, the intersection conditions are trivially satisfied. Otherwise,  $R_F \neq \emptyset$  and we proceed as follows.

Given  $\lambda > 0$  and a set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ , let

$$\Delta_1(A, \lambda) := \{\theta \mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{x} : |\theta| \leq \lambda, \mathbf{x} \in A\},$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . By (83), we have that

$$|\nabla f(x_2, \dots, x_m)| \leq p^{-1} \quad \text{for all } (x_2, \dots, x_m) \in \tilde{V}. \quad (84)$$

We claim that

$$\Delta_1(R_F, \eta) \subset \Delta(R_F, \eta) \subset \Delta_1(\tilde{R}_F \cap U_0, \eta m p^{-1}) \quad \text{for any } \eta \leq 3\rho(\beta_F). \quad (85)$$

Indeed, the l.h.s. of (85) is a straightforward consequence of the definitions of  $\Delta(\cdot)$  and  $\Delta_1(\cdot)$ . To prove the r.h.s. of (85) take any  $\mathbf{z} \in \Delta(R_F, \eta)$ . Then there exists  $\mathbf{x} \in R_F$  such that  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) < \eta$ . By the definition of  $R_F$  and  $V$ , we have that  $\pi \mathbf{x} \in \frac{1}{2}B$  for some  $3\rho(\beta_F)$ -ball  $B \subset \tilde{V}$ . Then,  $B(\pi \mathbf{x}, 3\rho(\beta_F)) \subset B \subset \tilde{V}$ . Since  $\text{dist}(\pi \mathbf{z}, \pi \mathbf{x}) \leq \text{dist}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) < \eta \leq 3\rho(\beta_F)$ , we have that  $\pi \mathbf{z} \in \tilde{V}$ . Then, using the Triangle Inequality and the Mean Value Theorem gives that

$$|z_1 - f(\pi \mathbf{z})| = |z_1 - x_1 + f(\pi \mathbf{x}) - f(\pi \mathbf{z})| \leq \eta + |f(\pi \mathbf{x}) - f(\pi \mathbf{z})| \leq m p^{-1} \eta$$

and shows the r.h.s. of (85).

*Upper bound condition.* Take any  $\mathbf{c} \in R_F$ , any positive  $\lambda \leq \rho(2^t)$  and any ball  $B$  with radius  $r(B) \leq 3\rho(2^t)$ . Since  $\rho$  is decreasing, we also have that  $\rho(2^t) \leq \rho(\beta_F)$ . Then, by (85),

$$\begin{aligned} B \cap B(\mathbf{c}, 3\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta(R_F, 3\lambda) &\subset B \cap B(\mathbf{c}, 3\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta_1(\tilde{R}_F \cap U_0, 3\lambda m p^{-1}) \\ &\subset \Delta_1(G_f(W), 3\lambda m p^{-1}), \end{aligned} \quad (86)$$

where  $W = \pi(B \cap B(\mathbf{c}, 3\rho(2^t)) \cap \tilde{R}_F \cap U_0)$ . Clearly,  $\text{diam } W \leq 2r(B)$ . Therefore, using (86) and Fubini's theorem gives

$$\begin{aligned} |B \cap B(\mathbf{c}, 3\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta(R_F, 3\lambda)|_m &\leq |W|_{m-1} \cdot 6\lambda m p^{-1} \leq (2r(B))^{m-1} \cdot 6\lambda m p^{-1} \\ &= c_2 |B(\mathbf{c}, \lambda)|_m \left( \frac{r(B)}{\lambda} \right)^{m-1} \end{aligned}$$

and this verifies (71).

*Lower bound condition.* Let  $\mathbf{c} \in R_F$  and  $0 < \lambda \leq \rho(2^t)$ . Again since  $\rho$  is decreasing, we have that  $\rho(2^t) \leq \rho(\beta_F)$ . Then, by (85),

$$B(\mathbf{c}, \tfrac{1}{2}\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta(R_F, \lambda) \supset B(\mathbf{c}, \tfrac{1}{2}\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta_1(R_F, \lambda) \supset \Delta_1(G_f(W'), \lambda), \quad (87)$$

where  $W' = \pi(B(\mathbf{c}, \tfrac{1}{2}\rho(2^t))) \cap V$ . Since  $\mathbf{c} \in R_F$ , we have that  $\pi\mathbf{c} \in V$  and therefore there exists a  $3\rho(\beta_F)$ -ball  $B \subset \tilde{V}$  such that  $\pi\mathbf{c} \in \tfrac{1}{2}B$ . Then, since  $3\rho(\beta_F) \geq \rho(2^t)$  and  $\pi\mathbf{c} \in \tfrac{1}{2}B \subset V$ , the set  $\pi(B(\mathbf{c}, \tfrac{1}{2}\rho(2^t))) \cap \tfrac{1}{2}B$  contains a ball of radius  $\tfrac{1}{4}\rho(2^t)$  and therefore

$$|\pi(B(\mathbf{c}, \tfrac{1}{2}\rho(2^t))) \cap \tfrac{1}{2}B|_{m-1} \geq (\tfrac{1}{4}\rho(2^t))^{m-1} v_{m-1} \geq (\tfrac{1}{4}\rho(2^t))^{m-1}.$$

Consequently,  $|W'|_{m-1} \geq (\tfrac{1}{4}\rho(2^t))^{m-1}$ .

Finally using (87) and Fubini's theorem gives

$$\begin{aligned} |B(\mathbf{c}, \tfrac{1}{2}\rho(2^t)) \cap \Delta(R_F, \lambda)|_m &\geq |W'|_{m-1} \cdot 2\lambda \geq (\tfrac{1}{4}\rho(2^t))^{m-1} \cdot 2\lambda \\ &= c_1 |B(\mathbf{c}, \lambda)|_m \left( \frac{\rho(2^t)}{\lambda} \right)^{m-1} \end{aligned}$$

and this verifies (70).

### 3.5 Proof of Proposition 4

Let  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in U$  be such that  $\mathbf{f}$  is  $\mathbf{v}$ -nice at  $\mathbf{x}_0$  and let  $U_0$  be the neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  that arises from Definition 2. Without loss of generality we will assume that  $U_0$  is a ball satisfying

$$\text{diam } U_0 \leq (2nm(n+1)(2C)^n)^{-1}. \quad (88)$$

We shall show that there are constants  $\kappa_0 > 0$  and  $\kappa_1 > 1$  and a value of parameter  $p \in (0, 1)$  appearing in Proposition 5 such that the collection  $(R_F)_{F \in \mathcal{F}_n}$  given by

$$R_F = \begin{cases} \text{same as in (82)} & \text{if } F \text{ satisfies (83)} \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

satisfies the statement of Proposition 4. By Proposition 5, the intersection conditions (70) and (71) are satisfied. Therefore we only need to prove the covering property (72). Let  $B \subset U_0$  be an arbitrary ball and  $t$  be a sufficiently large integer. Let  $Q = 2^t$ .

By Definition 2, for some fixed  $\delta, \omega \in (0, 1)$

$$\limsup_{Q \rightarrow \infty} |\Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta) \cap \tfrac{1}{2}B|_m \leq \omega |\tfrac{1}{2}B|_m.$$

Therefore, for sufficiently large  $Q$  we have that

$$|\frac{1}{2}B \setminus \Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta)|_m \geq \frac{1}{2}(1 - \omega)|\frac{1}{2}B|_m = 2^{-m-1}(1 - \omega)|B|_m. \quad (89)$$

Let  $\mathbf{x} \in \frac{1}{2}B \setminus \Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta)$  and consider the system of inequalities

$$\begin{cases} |a_n f_n(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + a_1 f_1(\mathbf{x}) + a_0| < Q^{-n}, \\ |a_i| \leq Q^{v_i} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n). \end{cases} \quad (90)$$

The set of  $(a_0, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  satisfying (90) is a convex body, say  $D$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  symmetric about the origin. Let  $\tau_0, \dots, \tau_{n+1}$  be the successive minima of this body. By definition,  $\tau_1 \leq \tau_2 \leq \dots \leq \tau_{n+1}$ . Since  $\mathbf{x} \notin \Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta)$ , we have that  $\tau_1 \geq \delta$ . By Minkowski's theorem on successive minima [31],  $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_{n+1} \text{Vol}(D) \leq 2^{n+1}$ . In view of the fact that  $v_1 + \dots + v_n = n$  we find that  $\text{Vol}(D) = 2^{n+1}$ . Therefore,  $\tau_1 \cdots \tau_{n+1} \leq 1$ , whence

$$\tau_{n+1} \leq (\tau_1 \cdot \tau_2 \cdots \tau_n)^{-1} < \delta^{-n} =: C_2$$

where

$$C_2 = \delta^{-n} = (2C)^n. \quad (91)$$

By the definition of  $\tau_{n+1}$ , there are linearly independent vectors  $\mathbf{a}_j = (a_{j,0}, \dots, a_{j,n}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{n+1}$  ( $0 \leq j \leq n$ ) such that the functions  $F_j(\mathbf{x}) = a_{j,n}f_n(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + a_{j,1}f_1(\mathbf{x}) + a_{j,0}$  satisfy

$$\begin{cases} |F_j(\mathbf{x})| \leq C_2 Q^{-n}, \\ |a_{j,i}| \leq C_2 Q^{v_i} \quad (1 \leq i \leq n). \end{cases} \quad (92)$$

Our next step is to construct a linear combination of  $F_j$  which will produce the set  $R_F$  such that  $\mathbf{x}$  lies in a small neighborhood of  $R_F$ . With this in mind, consider the following system of linear equations

$$\begin{cases} \eta_0 F_0(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + \eta_n F_n(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \\ \eta_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} F_0(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + \eta_n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} F_n(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \theta(\mathbf{x}) = Q^{v_1} + \sum_{i=0}^n \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} F_i(\mathbf{x}) \right|, \\ \eta_0 a_{0,j} + \dots + \eta_n a_{n,j} = 0 \quad (2 \leq j \leq n). \end{cases} \quad (93)$$

It is readily verified that the determinant of this system equals  $\det(a_i^{(j)})_{0 \leq i, j \leq n}$ . The latter is non-zero since  $\mathbf{a}_0, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$  are linearly independent. Therefore, system (93) has a unique solution  $\eta_0, \dots, \eta_n$ . Define integers  $t_i = \lfloor \eta_i \rfloor$ , thus

$$|t_i - \eta_i| < 1 \quad (0 \leq i \leq n). \quad (94)$$

Let

$$F(\mathbf{x}) := t_0 F_0(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + t_n F_n(\mathbf{x}) = a_n f_n(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + a_1 f_1(\mathbf{x}) + a_0,$$

where  $a_i = t_0 a_{0,i} + \dots + t_n a_{n,i}$ .



**The height of  $F$ :** Using (94), (92) and (93), we obtain

$$|a_j| \leq (n+1)C_2Q^{v_i} \quad (2 \leq j \leq n) \quad (95)$$

and

$$|F(\mathbf{x}) + \theta(\mathbf{x})| \leq (n+1)C_2Q^{-n}. \quad (96)$$

Using the second equation of (93), we find that

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{x}) \right| \geq Q^{v_1}. \quad (97)$$

In particular, this means that  $F$  is not identically zero and so  $F \in \mathcal{F}_n$ .

Using (6), (92) and the assumption that  $v_1 = |\mathbf{v}|$  we find that  $|\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}F_i(\mathbf{x})| \leq nC_0Q^{v_1}$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, n$ . Subsequently, together with (93) and (94) this implies that

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{x}) \right| \leq (2nC_0 + 1)Q^{v_1}. \quad (98)$$

Further, since  $\mathbf{f}$  is of the Monge form,  $a_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}F(\mathbf{x}) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}\theta(\mathbf{x}) - \sum_{j=2}^n a_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}f_j(\mathbf{x})$ . Then, using (6), (95) and (98) we obtain that

$$|a_1| \leq (3nC_0 + 2)Q^{v_1}. \quad (99)$$

This together with (95) and (97) gives

$$\kappa_0^*Q \leq \beta_\alpha := \kappa_0H_{\mathbf{v}}(F) \leq Q \quad (100)$$

for some explicitly computable constant  $\kappa_0, \kappa_0^* > 0$  depending only on  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $n$ ,  $C_0$  and  $C_2$ .

**Verifying condition (83):** Using Taylor's formula for any  $\mathbf{y} \in U_0$  we get

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{y}) \right| \geq \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{x}) \right| - \sum_{i=1}^m \left| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_i}(F + \theta)(\tilde{\mathbf{y}})(y_i - x_i) \right|. \quad (101)$$

Using (6), (95) and (99) we find that the second term of the r.h.s. of (101) is bounded above by  $mnC_0(n+1)C_2 \text{diam } U_0 Q^{v_1}$ . In view of (88) and (91) the latter is  $\leq \frac{1}{2}Q^{v_1}$ . On the other hand, by (97), the first term in the r.h.s. of (101) is  $\geq Q^{v_1}$ . Thus, (101) implies that

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{y}) \right| \geq \frac{1}{2}Q^{v_1}.$$

On the other hand using (6), (95) and (99) we get

$$\left| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(F + \theta)(\mathbf{y}) \right| \leq (n+1)C_0 \max\{3nC_0 + 2, (n+1)C_2\} Q^{v_1}$$

for any  $i = 1, \dots, m$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in U_0$ . This together with the above lower bound implies (83).

**Verifying that  $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta(R_F, \rho(2^t))$ .** This relies on the following easy consequence of the Mean Value Theorem.

**Lemma 6** *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $C^1$  function on an interval  $I$  such that  $|f'(x)| \geq d > 0$  for all  $x \in I$ . Let  $x_1 \in I$  and suppose that  $B(x_1, |f(x_1)|d^{-1}) \subset I$ . Then, there is an  $x_0 \in B(x_1, |f(x_1)|d^{-1})$  such that  $f(x_0) = 0$ .*

Let  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$ . Consider the interval

$$I = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : (x, x_2, \dots, x_m) \in B\}$$

and the function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x) = (F + \theta)(x, x_2, \dots, x_m)$ . In view of inequalities (96) and (97) and the fact that  $\mathbf{x} \in \frac{1}{2}B$ , Lemma 6 is applicable and gives that there is  $x_0 \in I$  such that  $f(x_0) = 0$  and  $|x_1 - x_0| \leq (n+1)C_2Q^{-n-v_1}$ . Then  $\mathbf{x}' := (x_0, x_2, \dots, x_m) \in B$  satisfies  $F(\mathbf{x}') + \theta(\mathbf{x}') = 0$  and

$$|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'| \leq (n+1)C_2Q^{-n-v_1}. \quad (102)$$

As before  $\pi$  is defined by (81) and  $\tilde{V}$  is defined by (82). Using (6) and the Mean Value Theorem we verify that  $|(F + \theta)(\mathbf{y})| \ll Q^{-n}$  when  $|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}'| \ll Q^{-n-v_1}$ . Then, applying the same argument as above for finding  $\mathbf{x}'$  we verify that for sufficiently large  $Q$  the ball of radius  $3\rho(\beta_F)$  centred at  $\pi\mathbf{x}'$  is contained in  $\tilde{V}$ . The details are straightforward and left to the reader. This ensures that  $\mathbf{x}' \in R_F$  and via (102) implies that  $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta(R_F, \rho(Q))$ .

**The finale.** Since  $\mathbf{x} \in \Delta(R_F, \rho(Q))$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  is an arbitrary point in  $\frac{1}{2}B \setminus \Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta)$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{2}B \setminus \Phi_{\mathbf{v}}^{\mathbf{f}}(Q, \delta) \subset \bigcup_{\alpha \in J_t} \Delta(R_{\alpha}, \rho(2^t)) \cap B.$$

Combining this with (89) gives (72) for our choice of  $\mathcal{R}$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\rho$  and thus completes the proof of the Proposition 4.

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